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Viewing cable 08ANKARA907, TURKEY SHARES USG'S OSLO PROCESS CONCERNS

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#08ANKARA907**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
08ANKARA907	2008-05-12 09:30	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Ankara

Appears in these articles:

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VZCZCXRO1585
PP RUEHBW
DE RUEHAK #0907 1330930
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 120930Z MAY 08
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6241
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1587
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 6428
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 3005
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 000907

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/08/2018
TAGS: [MOPS](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [NATO](#) [UN](#) [TU](#)
SUBJECT: TURKEY SHARES USG'S OSLO PROCESS CONCERNS

REF: STATE 48124

Classified By: Pol-Mil Counselor Carl Siebentritt, Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (C) We delivered reftel points to MFA Department Head for Disarmament and Nonproliferation Elif Ulgen on May 8. Ulgen said the GOT shared USG concerns about Article 1 (b) and (c) of the Oslo Process draft text, and agreed with the U.S. position that the workarounds developed for the Ottawa Convention would not be an appropriate model for cluster munitions.

¶2. (C) Ulgen reconfirmed that the GOT will not be a signatory to the Oslo Process. In addition to concerns about the potential impact on Alliance interoperability, Ulgen said the GOT had three additional concerns:

-- Although the Turkish military does not use cluster munitions, it maintains them in its inventory as an important element in Turkey's national defense. Ulgen said the Turkish General Staff has indicated that there are no real alternatives to cluster munitions for addressing Turkey's defense requirements.

-- None of Turkey's neighbors appear to be interested in becoming signatories;

-- Turkey is not in position to make any additional disarmament commitments as it is still focused on meeting its Ottawa Convention obligations to eliminate its stockpile of anti-personnel landmines.

¶3. The GOT plans to attend the May 19 Dublin meeting as an observer, and the delegation will be headed by the Turkish ambassador to Ireland, who will be supported by working level experts from Ulgen's office. Ulgen stated that the GOT continues to view the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) as the most appropriate venue for developing a sensible way forward on cluster munitions that strikes a balance between humanitarian concerns and military requirements, and will intensify its engagement in the CCW. Ulgen confirmed that the GOT will attend the CCW's July experts group meeting. Turkey also strongly supports the NATO tasking for the NATO Military Authorities (NMA) to provide military advice on the impact the Oslo Process would have on NATO operations, and will be very interested in NMA input.

¶4. (C) Ulgen took on board the need to share GOT concerns about the Oslo Process with Allies since, if adopted, the current text would have an impact on overall Alliance interoperability, irrespective of whether individual Allies become signatories to the Process.

Visit Ankara's Classified Web Site at
<http://www.intelink.sgov.gov/wiki/Portal:Turkey>

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